

418 1607/4388
CHARACTERS

OF THE

Court of *Hannover*:

WITH

A Word or Two of SOME BODY
else, which NO BODY has yet
Thought on.



L O N D O N:

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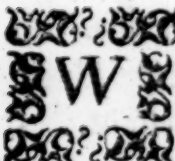
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1607/4388.





CHARACTERS, &c.


WHILST we are with all the
 Heat imaginable canvassing
 the Matter, spending our Judg-
 ments on the security of the
 Nation, and amusing our selves with the
 present Danger of the Succession, we
 seem not to be intent enough upon future
 Events, the most material Inference of
 all ; for it is not easy to believe, that the
 most violent of its Opposers would run
 into it headlong, and there must be an
 agreeable time allowed for the better Un-
 derstanding one another, who else may
 draw the Prescription upon themselves,
 however indulged in their Sentiments at
 present: Power, indeed, may be one
 Cause to justify a Negative ; but all the
 Power on Earth cannot extend it to the
 conviction of Reason, unless it be sup-
 ported by Arguments that carry a just and
 affirmative Sence with them. A 2 I

I am not, however, entering into a detail of this Business, or taking upon me to determine a point so very nice, but rather submit my self to Higher Powers, by inclining to their Judgments; yet I ever thought Caution might be used as a Virtue, and that crying *Fire* before the House was burnt down, was ever good Prudence. But let this pass, the Subject I am on, leads me another way; I will therefore drop the Dispute, without enquiring, either why some will not see Themselves, nor let others see for them. It would have been thought in former Ages, we had kept but a negligent guard of the Kingdoms *Safety*, when the Centuries were forbid to cry, *Who comes there?* Men who have been bred to these kind of Martial Duties, know their Security consists in Challenging both Friend and Foe, and letting none pass without giving the WORD: Thus they are safe from all Danger of being surpriz'd, unless they have Spies or Traitors in the Camp, who by corresponding with the Enemy, give them all opportunities to enter.

But this Argument it seems, does not come in Competition at present, and I hope it is not our Case, however some may



may be a little Ambitious to be thought the Humble Servants of a *certain Person* at a *certain Place*. Her Majesty's words carry more weight with me ; Her Religion, Piety, and Affection to Her People. It is not the blind Working of a few, like Moles under ground, that will do the Work ; *M—k* is not to be played again so easily, notwithstanding the Comparative Qualities of Sir *Roger*, or any other ; neither does the Case bear it ; Matters must be brought to a nearer light now ; they must solve the difference between a Protestant Prince, and indisputed Heir, and a Popish Pretender, disputed by all Law and Justice ; between one who appear'd, by many wonderful Acts of Providence, preserved to fill his Father's Throne, and another who seems destined by Heaven for a mock King, to dream of Crowns only, and please himself with an empty Title ; unless marked out by Vengeance, at the Instigation, of Villains, Traytors and Parricides, for the future Scourge of these Kingdoms, in proportion to the cursed Sin of those who contrive the ruin of their Country, by assisting to bring him hither.

Certainly, no People desire to seem less in earnest, than those who assert
 cur

our Security from the *Bona fide* of the F—*h* King; the weakness and inability of *France* to give him Assistance, with other shallow and ridiculous Circumstances, fit to stop the Mouths of Fools. No, our safety from Popish Tyranny, and that miserable train of Evils attending it, must, and will be found to consist in our own Actions, our Choice to Evade, and our Courage and Resolution to withstand and condemn those vile and scandalous Shifts, which begin to be set on foot to corrupt the honest Temper of the Nation. The Proclamation, said to be in the Press for apprehending Priests and Jesuits, and others, who are come over without License gives a true Idea of these things; and no doubt was grounded upon Information, that swarms of these Locusts were spread over the Kingdom, sowing Treason and Discord in the Minds of the People, that it may lye brooding there till a proper Season to reap the Fruits of it; such as spreading the Pretender's Picture with a load of Commendations of his Parts and Person; his sweet and merciful Temper; his turning Protestant; and his coming (if ever it happens, which Heaven avert) with a Spirit of Peace and Forgiveness. These are the principal
Seeds

Seeds from which our Danger must
 spring, these are the signs that will pre-
 pare his way, the Cunnigg Baits to en-
 snare unwary People: Nor is this all,
 but the practice is carried farther; they
 are by little Onsets, and sly Insinuations,
 to detract from the Honour and Dignity
 of the Illustrious H——se, from the
 known Virtue, and excellent Qualifica-
 tions, as well as the happy Advantages
 we derive from thence. Malicious, and
 not to be repeated Similitudes are made,
 and other Scandalous Innuendo's broach'd
 to lessen the real esteem and value the
 Nation justly places on them, and to
 wean us by Degrees, from the Love and
 Respect we ought to pay them. These
 are the means we are to be ruined by,
 if we listen to these *Syrens* who are set
 to Charm us. As to other Traiterous
 Practices and Intrigues, Heaven, which
 has already saved us by so many Miracles,
 will, in due time, bring them to light,
 and we shall see the Authors of them,
 repenting under the Terrors of Axes
 and Halsters; but let us be prepared a-
 gainst the dangerous Poison and Infection
 of false and scandalous Whispers,
 which if they once prevail or find belief,
 we infallibly open a Door to our own
 Destruction.

That

That the *Subject* may with the greater Reason Arm against these Things, and assume Courage and Honesty enough to refute them: There is a Clause in the Act, which makes it High Treason, *To oppose by Word or Writing, the Succession in the Protestant Line.*

And this I think fit to let them know to inspire them with a Resolution not to be imposed on: Let us keep our Religion and Liberties in view, together with a dread of the Horrors and Mileries of Popery; and whilst we hold these Maxims sacred, our Enemies will find themselves disappointed in their Hopes and Designs: Thus Armed and Fortified we are pretty secure, and this Point once given up, we certainly deserve, and must expect the worst that can happen, and to be scourged with Rods of our own making.

If we have so soon forgot the Trying of our Bishops, Imprisoning and Fining our Nobility, Scourging our Clergy; Popish Cabals, Councils, *Irish* Armies, and the miraculous Deliverance Heaven was pleased to send us; we are certainly ripe for Destruction, and Merit no less Punishment for our Folly, than the Frogs met with; to be devoured and destroyed by the very King, their own unruly Hearts required. Were

Were there no other reason to be given, and the Laws and Statutes in Force were to be broke thro' like an ill Fence, let us but consider for our own Interest only, who we ought to prefer, by weighing the Advantages that are like to accrue on all Hands. In the most *Illustrious House* we have a Royal Race of Protestant Princes, Powerful, Rich, Virtuous and Noble; possessed already of a fine and populous Country, where Plenty and Tranquility Reigns, which annexed to the Crown of *Great Britain*, will be no little Glory and Advantage to it: For in the Construction of King *Henry the VII*, *The Lesser will accrue to the Greater, and not the Greater to the Lesser*. The Revenues will be an Addition to our Strength, which will raise our Honour and Reputation abroad: We secure a valuable Interest in *Germany*; and whenever Occasion shall raise up the Seeds of a War again in the *Netherlands*, which will but too often present; our Native Blood and Treasure may, in a great Measure, be spared by convenient Succours and Supplies drawn from thence: Our Dominions will be extended, and a hundred other glorious Circumstances and Advantages will arise, of which farther presently.

Now let us see what we are to expect with the Pretender ; is there any thing to be hoped for but Poverty, and Popish Trinkets, with an immense Debt to pay for his *French* Education, and perhaps Twenty or Thirty Thousand Pair of wooden Shoes into the Bargain? And in return, according as we behave ourselves, the Favour of Liberty of Conscience, and a Tolleration of Protestant Episcopacy ; provided at the same time that we leave him to his own Religion ; which he will first privately, and after publickly encourage and promote : Otherwise you must receive him as a Convert from Popery ; (few of which were ever yet worth hanging) a candied Protestant, iced over with Sweet Hypocrisy, but bitter and ill tasted, if you penetrate under that Fortification, that false Coat of Sugar. They may tell us of the vigour and handsomeness of his Person ; his Majestick Air, Mein, and many good Qualities, his killing of wild Boars, managing Armies, profuse Courage, and generous Spirit ; but an *English* Man would, I believe, answer to all this, That he was bred up in *French* Maxims, an Enemy to our Religion and Liberties, a bigotted Papist, and no way qualified for our purpose ; so that if those who
have

have been at the Charge of his Education, or are any way fond of his Company, will accept of a Present from us; I know nothing we can so easily dispence withal in *England*.

As I have said something of the Advantages that will accrue from our Interest in the *Illustrious House*, (besides the dear Remembrance of our Religion and Liberties, which ought eternally to bind us against all Traynerous Designs and Attempts, to maintain and rejoice in the present happy Establishment) I will farther shew how we are otherwise secured against all Fears, Dangers, or Objections that can be raised by the worst of its Enemies, and that it was for our own Welfare, and Interest, we enter'd into this Settlement, and on Conditions more advantageous to our selves than Them.

That we have consulted our own Interest, let us see the Act of Succession, where we shall find that we have reserved to our selves, all that is beneficial, and provided such Rules as makes it seem their Goodness and Compassion to us to accept.

The Court of *Hanover* is generally esteemed one of the most polite and splen-

did in *Germany*, honoured and respected by their Neighbours, and enjoying all the Felicities that a happy Prince or People can expect; the Dominions are very extensive, especially, by the late annexing the rich and fertile *Dutchy* of *Zell* to that of *Hanover*, to the great encrease of its Revenue, which was before very large, the Elector drawing vast profits from his Silver Mines in the *Hercynean* Forrest, besides the alternate Right to the Bishoprick of *Osnaburgh*, which falling by turns to Protestants and Papists, the Bishop of the former Perswasion must always be one of the House of *Hanover*, which makes them, with good reason, look upon that City and Bishoprick as part of their own Dominions. This shews us, that we have not entail'd our Crown unwarily, but have had some regard to our own Advantage, as well as to our Security only.

But it may be suggested, at least by such Incendiaries as we have spoke of, and others who are no well wishers that way, That we shall be over-run with Forreigners; that the Prince will introduce his own Favourites and Customs, or engage us in expensive Expeditions to defend his Forreign Dominions; (as *Eng-*
land

land anciently was to defend the Dukedom of *Normandy*, of which it was said, that it cost us more to keep it than it was worth) or that he will spend his Revenue Abroad, and so often visit his Forreign Dominions, as will be Inconvenient for the Kingdom, which complaint has sometimes been justly laid. But we shall now see that Experience has made us Wise in these points, and that due care has been taken to dissipate these Scruples, even to our own Satisfaction.

Clauses in the Act of Succession.

‘ That in case the Crown and Imperial
 ‘ Dignity of this Realm, shall hereafter
 ‘ come to any Person, not being a Native
 ‘ of this Kingdom, this Nation is not to
 ‘ be oblig’d to engage in any War for the
 ‘ Defence of any Dominions or Territo-
 ‘ ries which do not belong to the Crown
 ‘ of *England*, without consent of Parlia-
 ‘ ment.

‘ That no Person who shall hereafter
 ‘ come to the Possession of this Crown,
 ‘ shall go out of the Dominions of *Eng-
 ‘ land*, *Scotland*, or *Ireland*, without con-
 ‘ sent of Parliament.

That

‘ That after the further Limitation by
 ‘ this Act shall take effect, no Person born
 ‘ out of the Kingdom of *England*, *Scot-*
 ‘ *land*, or *Ireland*, or the Dominions there-
 ‘ unto belonging, tho’ Naturalized or
 ‘ made a free Denizen (except such as are
 ‘ born of *English* Parents) shall be capa-
 ‘ ble to be of the Privy Council, or a
 ‘ Member of either House of Parliament,
 ‘ or to enjoy any Office, or Place of Trust
 ‘ Civil or Military, or to have any grant
 ‘ of Lands, &c. from the Crown, either
 ‘ to himself, or any in trust for him.

Here we see that every reasonable Ob-
 jection is removed and answer’d; we have
 nothing to fear, nothing to be conscious
 of but our own Happiness; besides, that
 in a Generation or two more, they will be
 entirely *English*, and even the Taste of
 Forreign Customs be wholly lost.

Whereas, we have no Bargain made
 with the Pretender, no previous Condi-
 tion of Security, no rich Territories to
 advantage our selves by, but these which
 are half ruined already by Expensive Wars
 to keep him out, to be Pillaged and Sa-
 crificed to the bringing him in. We may
 be eaten up with the Refuge of Forreign-
 ners, *French*, *Lorrainers*, and the Devil
 and

and all of Domineering *Irish* Cut Throat Papists, ten times worse, and more pernicious than Forreigners ; and Gratitude will oblige him to bestow Honours, Preferments, Grants, &c. on his Followers ; so that we may probably have a set of Nobility and Gentry in a little time, that will hardly know from whence the Devil One Another came, nor that any thing but a *Welch* Legend of Heraldry, will be capable to comprehend their Pedigrees.

Let every *Britain* seriously reflect on these things ; let him consider the Condition we are like to draw our selves into, if we give into the whispers of these Malicious Emissaries, who have the Impudence to make Scandalous Comparisons ; let it inspire them with Sentiments becoming the occasion ; and with Courage and Resolution to discover and apprehend any that are Promoters of so vile a Cause, by making Traiterous Inferences, tending to alienate our Hearts from our present Security and Happiness ; let them not fear, but glory to do their Duty ; the Name of *Informers* suits only in meaner Cases, in this, it will be changed to that of PATRIOT, and render a Man worthy to be honour'd and preferr'd by his Country ; let us but strive to weed up these Seeds of Poison,

and

and we cannot miss of a glorious and happy Harvest.

The last thing I have to observe, is the Personal Virtues inherent in the illustrious House ; many perhaps will be Curious, as well as it will be necessary for others, to see the Characters of those who are nominated to the Succession, and a small Picture of this nature drawn to the Life, may make a happy Impression on Peoples Minds ; nor shall I omit, thro' the improbability of her living to Reign here, the Electress *Dowager*, the living spring of this Virtuous and Illustrious House.

She is now in the Eighty Fourth Year of her Age, being born the Third of *October* 1630, but having ever enjoyed extraordinary Health, she is still Vigorous and Chearful even to admiration : She has been long admired by all the Learned World, as a Woman of incomparable Knowledge in Divinity, Philosophy, History, and the Subjects of all sorts of Books ; she speaks five Languages so well, that by her Accent, it might be disputed which was her first, they are *German*, *Low-Dutch*, *French*, *Italian*, and *English*, which last she speaks as truly and easily as any Native, and indeed is entirely *English*
in

in her Person, in her Behaviour, in her Humour, and all her Inclinations, that naturally she could not miss of any thing which peculiarly belongs to our Island : she was ever glad to see *English* Men, long before the Act of Succession ; she professes to admire our form of Government, and understands it mighty well, having always been curious to inquire about Families, Customs, Laws, and the like, that shewed her good Inclinations for us ; she has a due Veneration for the Church of *England*, making the Responses when she hears its Service read, as exactly as if she had been bred in it, and appears wonderfully pleased with the merciful Temper of our present Bishops, and others of the Learned Clergy, especially, for their approbation of the Liberty established by Law to Protestant Dissenters ; she is adored for her Goodness among the Inhabitants of the Country, and gains the Hearts of all Strangers by her unparallel'd Affability and Condescension. No distinction is ever made concerning Parties into which *English* Men are divided, and whereof they carry the Effects and Impressions with them withersoever they go ; it is enough there, that you are an *English* Man, nor can you ever dis-

cover by their Treatment, which is better lik'd, the Whigs or the Tories; these are the Instructions given to all her Servants, and they take care to execute them with the utmost exactness; so that from the Maxims entertain'd in this Family, by her Royal Highnesses Example, 'tis highly probable no Party will ever be favoured, nor no difference made, but to distinguish Men of Merit and Honesty.

The Elector *George Lewis*, born *May 28. 1660.* is, in his Person, a proper, middle-siz'd, well proportion'd Man, of a gentle Address, and good Appearance, is Reserv'd, and therefore speaks little, but Judiciously; he is not to be exceeded in his Zeal against the long intended Universal Monarchy of *France*, and so is most hearty for the Common Cause of *Europe*, wherein his own is so nearly concern'd; he understands our Constitution the best of any Forreigner, and tho' he be well vers'd in the Art of War, and of invincible Courage, having often expos'd his Person to the greatest Dangers, in *Hungary*, in the *Morea*, on the *Rhine*, and in *Flanders*, yet he is naturally of Peaceable Inclinations, which mixture of Qualities is agreed by the Experience of all Ages, to make the best and most glorious Princes;

Princes ; he is a perfect Man of Business, exactly Regular, in the Oeconomy of his Revenues, Reads all Dispatches himself at first hand, Writes most of his own Letters, and spends a considerable part of his time on such Occasions with his Ministers ; he is of a very Courteous and Affable Temper, and pays a great regard to the name of an *English* Man ; his Administration is most Equitable, Mild, and Prudent ; and his Frugality and Justice so great as is hardly to be equalld, notwithstanding no Man has more real Honour or Generosity in his Nature ; the Expences of his Court are duly paid once a Week, and the Officers of his Army receive their Pay every Month, as likewise his Envoys in every part of *Europe*, and all the rest of his Household, with the rest that are on the Civil List, are cleared off every half Year.

This endears him to his People, and he is the best beloved by them of any Prince in the World. There is no Division of Faction among them, by reason of his Impartial Favour ; and instead of repining and murmuring against his Person, their whole Discourse is of his great Justice, Moderation and Goodness : He understands *English* well, and speaks it pretty readily,

and above all shews a very great affection to our Country.

The Electoral Prince *George Augustus*, Duke and Marquis of *Cambridge*, Earl of *Milford Haven*, Viscount *Northalerton*, and Baron of *Tewksbury*, born *October 30. 1683*. He gives the greatest hopes of himself that we or any People on Earth can desire ; he has a very winning Countenance, is Middle-siz'd like his Father, well made, and of a Manly Aspect and Deportment, and fair Complexion, he speaks very gracefully, and with the greatest easiness imaginable ; he has very good Foundations of Learning as well as his Father, who speaks Latin fluently, and all due care has been taken to furnish him with such other Accomplishments as are fit for a Gentleman and a Prince ; and especially to inform him in the *English* Laws and Customs, being no stranger to its Language ; he is, for his Years, a great Master of History, and is in this, as in all things else, extraordinary Curious and Inquisitive, which is the best and surest Foundation of useful Knowledge. These acquired Parts, with a generous Disposition and virtuous Inclinations, will one day deservedly render him the Darling of our People, and probably Grace the *English*

lish Throne with a most knowing Prince : He has not only learnt of his Grandmother to have a real esteem for *Englishmen*, but he likewise entertains a high Notion of the Wisdom, Goodness and Power of the *English* Government ; concerning which he is constantly asking some pertinent Question or other, and such as betoken'd no mean or common Observation ; so that many have been surprized to find that he understood so much of our Affairs already ; but the great vivacity of his Nature will not let him be ignorant of anything. He is likewise well qualified in the other necessary Parts that belong to a Prince of his Rank ; and the particular manner with which he distinguish'd himself at the Battle of *Audenarde*, when he made the Campaign under the Duke of *Marlborough*, gave sufficient proof of his early Courage ; as well as those other eminent Virtues that are Conspicuous in him.

The Infant Prince of *Brunswick* his Son, born the 30th of *Janury* 1706. is too young to discribe, as well as the Princesses his Sisters ; and it will be needless to Characterize the Elector's Brothers, Men famed for their Valour, and other excellent Qualities ; since the Succession is transferred

ferred, after this Race, to the House of *Prusia*, by the Marriage of the present King of *Prusia*, with *Sophia-Dorothy*, only Daughter of the present Elector, his Cousin German, for his Mother was *Sophia-Charlotte*, Sister to the present Elector *George-Lewis*, the most Beautiful and best Accomplished Lady of her Time, for she attracted more than common esteem from all who had the Honour to know her, or were made acquainted with her signal Perfections. Should we likewise look farther into their Ancestry, we should find a constant and peculiar stream of Virtue always running in their Veins, from whence the greatest Expectations are to be drawn: And this in particular affects the Good of *Britain*, by having secured an inviolable Friendship with that Monarch, whose Interest is inseparable from that of the *Illustrious House*, and their united Power, together with their great Interest in other Kingdoms and States, of the highest Consequence to the Honour and Welfare of *Britain*, and the Preservation of the Protestant Religion in *Europe*.

As to the Personal Virtues of the Pretender, they are soon sum'd up: He is for Education passing well; speaks *French*, Rides the Great Horse, Dances, Fences, and

and the like; and very probably he is of a four Disposition of Mind, which may proceed from the many Discontented and out of humour People which he has constantly had about him. Whether he has Courage or no I can't tell, but I'm sure he ought to be terrible to us; for he has once Thunder'd at our Gates with Fire and Sword, and has left a d ——— d melancholy Impression behind him. As to his Person I can't say much, he may be a proper handsome Man; yet methinks I know *something* that would fit his Head better than a *Diadem*.

In a word, I have told you how the House of *H—r* is prepared to receive our Religion, and imbibe our Customs; I think I need not inform you of the Customs the Pretender has imbibed, they are apparent enough in his Education: And for his Religion we shall see how he is prepared presently, by the dying Advice of King *James*, who left him these Instructions in Writing.

Serve God as a perfect Christian, and be a Worthy Child of the Romish Church. Let no humane Consideration, of what nature soever, be ever capable to draw you from it.

And

And are we so vain to imagine that he will ever derogate from this sacred Advice, supported by certain Indications in his own Nature, and pretended Motherly Repetitions, whose Love to Us, and our Religion, is out of dispute.

It is certain we are not to be ruined upon any sudden Emergency, or hasty Operation, but upon slow and premeditated Contrivances ; we are to be talked fair, till we are talked out of all Power to redress our selves, and then we shall have one *Fair Story* for all. An *English* Man sure should be ashamed to be cajoled out of his Liberty thus ; our Forefathers would have blush'd at it, and shewed the honest Blood in their Cheeks was only a Tincture of that which flowed from their Loyal and Courageous Hearts. Villains were not suffer'd, in those Ages, to traduce Acts of Settlement, to arraign the Justice of our excellent Constitution and Power of Parliaments ; and yet now (comparitively) after Five Hundred Years Experience, we are to be imposed on by the most senceless and absur'd Pretences imaginable ; for I am here to observe, that our Enemies cannot come rightly to their work, but by wounding the Succession thro' the sides of the Revolution

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range did not keep his Word with us. He
 told us in his Declaration, it seems, he did
 not come with a design to obtain the
 Crown, and very probably he told us
 Truth; for tho' he was to be allowed a
 Man of a prodigious Foresight, yet he
 would have been a very Magician to have
 discern'd that King *James* would have
 left the Kingdom, which is well known
 to be owing to his Popish Councils, long
 after the Printing of the Declaration;
 and this allowed, I can't perceive what
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conceiv'd the Nations Good wholly relied on it ; and all the alteration otherwise, it could, or did occasion, was, that his Successor had been about five years sooner on the Throne.

But again, they plainly, and I believe on purpose, invert the Sence of the Words ; for they are, *That he came not with Design to Conquer and Enslave the Nation.* And this was an addition to the Declaration ; after it was currently reported by the Papists, That he had undertaken the Expedition to that purpose, which is answered by the Words of the Declaration, thus :

‘ We are confident, that no Person can
 ‘ have such hard Thoughts of us, as to
 ‘ imagine that we have any other Design
 ‘ in this Undertaking, than to procure
 ‘ the Settlement of the Religion, and
 ‘ of the Properties of the Subject upon
 ‘ so sure a Foundation, that there may be
 ‘ no Danger of the Nations relapsing into
 ‘ the like Miseries at any time hereafter.

These therefore are only Cavils, under the Umbrage of which they may approach nearer to the present Act of Succession ; for the Revolution once stigmatized,

tized, and Hereditary Right explained in a literal and useful Sence, good Night to the P——t L——e; what a bulk of Wax and Parchment has been wasted in Records and Patents to complement the Illustrious H——? And how many fine Suits spoiled in paying Visits, and E——ys there to lay a timely claim to their good Graces?

We are certainly a poor Spirited People in *England*, we could not else be twice deceiv'd by the same Methods; we saw the struggles against a Popish Successor in King *Charles* the 2d's time, and gave in to Hereditary Right, which we repented with a dear bought Experience in the Reign after: We extricated our selves from the most eminent Danger, by a Resolution becoming *Englishmen*, when the *Ancient Virtue of the Nation* exerted it self and shone out in it's full Lustre; but being weary of our Liberties and Religion, which our Ancestors were always ready to defend with the hazard of their Lives and Fortunes; we are now going to be troubled with a Maudlin Fit, and swallow a Portion which Quacks and Knaves have prepar'd for us, who under the pretence of curing us of one Distemper, draw us into another ten times more incurable.

Another Reference they have to the Prince of *Orange's* Declaration, which they make mighty use of at this time, but to as little purpose as possible, *viz.* That he promises to make the spurious Birth of the Pretender evidently appear, and this likewise he did not keep his word in, whereas, in Truth, there is no more in it then this, That it having been represented to him by those who invited him hither, that King *James* had, among other Grievances, imposed an Heir on them, and when he is speaking against the Evils to be Redressed by calling a free Parliament, he says — ‘ To this Parliament also we refer the inquiry into the Birth of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and all things relating to it, and to the Right of Succession.

Is not this a pretty Amusement to be revived again after Twenty Six Years Consideration; after many subsequent Acts passed for our farther Security, and maintain'd at the expence of the Blood and Treasure of the Kingdom; and are we to enter into one single Question, which has no weight in it, further than to throw idle Notions into Peoples Heads, and put all upon the hazard, as well her M—'s Right, as the Right and Liberties of the
Peo.

People, to be disputed by Incendiaries to the disadvantage of the S——n? For it is a certain Maxim, that when a Man once falls foul of the Revolution, he is to be esteemed a downright Jacobite: I speak it plain, because all the Colouring of Words, all the cunning Shifts and Pretences they can use, cannot extricate them from the Imputation; tho' there are some who labour much to be thought very dutiful in their Sentiments to Her M——y, and find out a miraculous meaning to solve her Title; for tho' it be true, that her Hereditary Right is good, yet in their Construction, it would be but very slenderly supported, were Her Parliamentary Right taken away that props it up; and this some of her zealous pretended Friends are endeavouring at for Her, tho' at the same time we are to believe they love her extreamly well, whilst they have their Eyes at B——le——c, as if it were possible to love G—— and Mammon.

But as it has been said upon a very great occasion, and I shall take leave to use the same Words; 'It is self-evident that the Honour of Her Majesty's Government, stands upon the justice of the Revolution; so doth the Peace and
'Tran-

' Tranquility of it depend upon that also.
 From what Quarter is it that all the Opposi-
 tion and Obstruction to the Administra-
 tion of the late King and her present
 Majesty have come? Has it not been
 from those who questioned the Lawful-
 ness of the Resistance made use of at the
 Revolution? Whose pursuits after it is In-
 defatigable, and to obtain which, they
 would make a willing Sacrifice of the
 Common Liberty, whilst others, who
 have a contrary Principle, have Acted
 a quite contrary Part? Have they not
 contributed every thing in their Power
 to strengthen the Government in her
 present Majesty's Hands, as well as the
 late King's, and that with a Zeal and
 Constancy thro' several Changes, which
 nothing but a Principle could inspire?
 How much is owing to this Zeal in pro-
 moting the Settlement of the Protestant
 Succession? And how little to the con-
 trary Principle? Hath not this Principle
 of unlimited Non-resistance, been revi-
 ved by the profest and undisguised Friends
 of the Pretender? Hath it not been Pro-
 secuted with an unusual warmth since
 his Attempt upon Her Majesty's Crown?
 Can the Pretender have any hope but
 from keeping alive such Notions? Or
 can

can the Queen's Title receive any Advantage from them? Or can it be seasonable to Preach this Doctrine in the Reign of the best of Princes, which can be of no use but to the worst?

Now what occasion is there for so particular a Repetition of these Exceptions at present? People have sat down generally well contented with their Security in the Protestant Succession; the Pretender was very little talked of, till his Invasion in the Year 1708. and from the Encouragement his Friends receiv'd from some late Passages, which they are endeavouring to improve to his Advantage, and dare, almost, openly utter those things which makes the Accusation apparent, and in particular that grand step to it, of Blackning and Defaming the Revolution, together with the Memory of that Glorious Instrument of our Deliverance, King *William*; and if People are once gained upon to dislike the Measures that drove King *James* out, they are in a fair way of being easily perswaded to admit the P——t in, which is the main End and Doctrine of whatever is said against the Revolution; and all the Firebrands, and marks of Hatred and Revenge thrown at those who were the prin-

principal Actors in it, but they happen to light only on those who are at present out of Power, because perhaps they place some little Confidence in others, who they will treat in the same manner, when they discover they were never framed for the purposes they conceive; but even therein we have run a hazard, for 'tis natural for Men to act upon Principles of Self-preservation, and should it come to an Issue, there are but too many, otherwise honest enough, that would want Courage to stand their Ground, as well as a numerous Concourse that would run with the Tide.

I think, as the Reverend Doctor has it, 'tis time to put a stop to this dangerous and encroaching Mischief, that now, with Impudence, walks up and down thro' this distracted Kingdom, it becoming the Duty of every Honest *Englishman* to endeavour, if possible, to open the Eyes of the deluded People. We are told by those Men who would fain shut both our Eyes and our Mouths, in order the more effectually to undermine and destroy us, that we are in no Danger; but if honest Gentlemen will sit still, and give up their Religion thro' want of Courage, or a just Sense of the Dangerous

rous Attempts of our Enemies, without the Spirit of Prophecy we may foretell what will become of our Constitution, when 'tis so vigorously attack'd from without, and so lazily defended from within.

This seems indeed a Prophecy of our present Condition, unless some such fearless Champions as the Doctor rise up in our Defence; for had a Man been less than inspired with Prophetick Rage, his words could hardly have risen so well in Judgment to the Service of the Nation.

I cannot conceive, nor shall presume to suggest, that the S——n is in danger under Her Majesty's Administration, (however the Doctor succeeded in asserting the Church to be so, when it perfectly seem'd in its greatest Security, and had never known a more Serene or Glorious Interval from the time of the Reformation) but I very much fear we are in danger from *False-Brethren*, from a set of Villains and Traitors, that are endeavouring to infect the Nation with Poisonous Arguments; which if they once reach the Heart, we are then in a Condition wholly incurable,

I confess those People who infer the S——n to be in danger, may think wrong; but it would seem much happier were there no occasion to think so at all; for if these fears be, as we are told they are, groundless, yet there is certainly a Foundation to raise such Imaginations on, which might easily be remov'd by some hearty and honest Methods taken to enliven our Friends, and discourage our Enemies.

There is yet an Honest Spirit reigning in the Nation, which if it be cherished and kept up, will prove a Wall of Brass to our Constitution; but if this Spirit be beaten and trodden down, if it be discountenanc'd and corrupted, what Hopes have we then? And this must be done before the Pretender's Affairs can prosper; his Friends know it, know the sturdy Temper of the People, and if they are not a little prepar'd by soft Arguments and Insinuations, the Cause is not to be carried: I am unwilling to say these things are too much suffer'd, which ought to meet with the greatest discountenance and prosecution; whilst others are treated with Severity, for the most sure and palpable Professions

ons of Kindness and Esteem for the
 Ill — s H — e.

It is not the first time the People of *England* have been so deceived and wheedled into their Ruin; which they have dearly repented after. I have already instanc'd their acquiescing in a Popish Successor once before; Were we not then gull'd and drawn in by all the specious pretences that could be devised? and were not Emissaries spread thro' the whole Kingdom to this purpose? did not they magnify and extol his Virtues, his sweet and peaceable Disposition, and his natural Love to his Country? And tho' indeed he made some Professions of the *Romish* Faith, did they not tell us we were still secure in our Religion and Liberty; nay, did they not give hopes that we should find him a good Protestant? Is not this a just Parallel with what seems to be acting now? Don't they double and shift like hunted Hares, and try every way to sound the depth of People? And can we promise our selves more in this Case, than we could at any time heretofore? On the contrary, Are we not to expect, that the **M**uchief and Inconvenience will accumulate with the Practice?

We can never be amused with more deluding Arts, nor ever be forewarned by more terrible Examples, as we shall see by a proof which carries no little Authority with it.

‘ It is also manifest and notorious, That
 ‘ as his Majesty [King *James*] was, up-
 ‘ on his coming to the Crown, received
 ‘ and acknowledged by all the Subjects
 ‘ of *England, Scotland and Ireland*, as
 ‘ their King, without the least opposi-
 ‘ tion, tho’ he made then open profession
 ‘ of the Popish Religion; so he did then
 ‘ Promise and *solemnly Swear*, at his Co-
 ‘ ronation, that he wou’d maintain his
 ‘ Subjects in the free enjoyment of their
 ‘ Laws and Liberties; and in particular,
 ‘ That he wou’d maintain the Church of
 ‘ *England as it was by Law Established, &c.*

C O N T R A.

In the Preamble to the Bill passed soon after in *England*, it is declared,
 ‘ That by the Assistance of Evil Coun-
 ‘ sellors, Judges, and *Ministers*, employ-
 ‘ ed by him, he did endeavour to Extir-
 ‘ pate the Protestant Religion, the Laws
 ‘ and Liberties of the Kingdom, &c.
 And in that passed in the Kingdom of
 Scot-

Scotland, ' That by the Advice of Evil
' Counsellors he did invade the Funda-
' mental Constitution of that Kingdom,
' and alter'd it from a Legal Limited
' Monarchy, to an Arbitrary Despotick
' Power.

Now, can ye expect any better from the P——r, more especially if we are really to receive him as the S——n of such a Father? *K. James* owed no Obligation to *France* for his Education, nor to the Pope for his Assistance; he came a Rich Prince to the Crown, and under all the Advantages (his Religion excepted) that we could expect. The P——r, (as a certain Writer has lately assured us, tho' for quite different Ends) is Poor, and has all those Obligations to defray, either out of our Treasury or the Legislature. Tho' 'tis hinted to us by the same Hand, that his Poverty is our Security; for the Author, seems to love him so well, as to admit of a supposition of his Coming, probably to see how it would relish; when I cannot imagine there can be a more Dangerous, as well as a more Scandalous Article inserted in his Favour.

But I will go farther yet; were the P——r's Coming the worst, we could expect there might be something said for
it

it, supposing it in the most Peaceable and Forgiving manner his Friends express, and Truſting to his Goodneſs and Generoſity ; Can any thing be the ſequel of it, but the Danger and Miſeries of a Civil War, to be carried on in our own Bowels, and ſo compleat the Diſaſters a Forreign War has begun? It is a happineſs in this point, that we all agree to pray loudly for the long Life of our preſent Gracious QUEEN, every honeſt Man wiſhing his Date may expire where theſe Calamities are like to begin, rather than live to ſee the inevitable Miſfortunes his Country is like to fall into.

For let the warmeſt of the Pre — r's Friends conſider, if they are *Engliſhmen*, and Proteſtants, will the Illuſtrious H — e ever condeſcend to the Abolition of their Right? or ſit contented with mean and pitiful Excuses? or perhaps ſome trivial Acknowledgments or Satisfaction? No, it is an Affront to them, as well as an Abſurdity to think ſo: What then will they do? Will they not exert that Power, that Wealth, that Courage, and that Intereſt they are Maſters of, to recover their Right, a Right ſo ſtrongly inveſted in them, Eſta bliſhed as well by all the ſolemn Laws of Parliament, as by their own
Right

Right of Blood, and Personal Virtues? Written with Affection in the Hearts of above Three parts of the Kingdom? Can the greatest Casuist therefore, or the most profound Politician, give this any other Conclusion (on the same Conditions) than what I have named?

I think it needless to enter into farther Arguments of the Truth of this; and will take upon me to affirm, That with the P — r we cannot avoid a Civil War, and That very probably carried on by Foreign Assistance to compleat the Calamity of it: It is to be confessed, our sins may be of that Consequence, as to merit the pulling down this Vengeance upon us; but does it not the more behove us then to endeavour to avoid the Means, by giving Heaven an opportunity to be Kind and Merciful to us; and to join our humblest Supplications, as well as our Assistance, to free our selves from so great an Evil; I speak this as an *Englishman* and a Protestant, to be added to all the Reasons already given of the Danger of the S — n from a Popish Successor, excluded as an Imposter; and who can never be readmitted to any degree of Lawful Right, without an apparent hazard all of that is dear to us; and if we have not Reason from what has been said to keep us on our Guard, we justly deserve that Punishment which Heaven has in store for Us; for I must aver, that if ever we shall be so unhappy as to see so melancholy a Day, we ought to

to look on it as a just retribution of our manifold Sins and Transgressions, and the greatest of all, by aggravating Heaven after so many favourable Deliverances.

Let us resolve then not to be deluded by any plausible pretences whatever, but assert, against all Evasions, or Opposition, our Safety and Happiness in the Illustrious H—e, without which, we cannot be imputed honest to our Country, to our Religion, to our Liberties, or to our Selves. Let it be our Ambition that we have such a Race of virtuous Princes assigned to Govern us, and that will instruct us to vindicate them against all Trayterous Inferences: It is no Crime yet to tell the Greatest Man in *Britain*, who acts in the Pr——r's Interest, or against the Right, Honour, and Dignity of the *Illustrious House*, That he is a Villain and a Traytor, and deserves that Vengeance treasured up against all those who are Betrayers of their Country.

FINIS.



